

was followed by another seizure of 5 shahtoosh shawls from a shop in Dilli Haat near INA market on 18.11.96. The seized property was produced before the Court on 20.11.96.

(c) So far no person has been arrested in these cases. Wool fibres have been collected from the seized shawls and sent to the Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun for forensic examination.

(d) The measures taken to control smuggling of wildlife and their parts and products are given in the Statement.

STATEMENT

The measures taken to control smuggling of wildlife and their parts and products are :

- (i) Hunting of wild animals included in Schedules I to IV of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, has been banned by law.
- (ii) Special measures for protection and conservation of tiger, elephants and rhinos and their habitat are being implemented.
- (iii) A network of 441 wildlife sanctuaries and 80 National Parks covering 1.48,000 sq. km. has been set up for conservation of wild flora and fauna. Financial assistance is provided by the Central Government for development of national parks and sanctuaries on request from the State Governments.
- (iv) This Ministry has set up a National Coordination Committee consisting of representative of all major enforcement organisations such as : Customs, Revenue intelligence, CBI Police, BSF, ITBP, RPF and foreign Post Office, Traffic-India and Wildlife authorities to enable effective inter-departmental cooperation and coordination to deal with the problem of illegal trade in wildlife and wildlife products.
- (v) Training programmes on enforcement and implementation of wildlife and other related laws and international conventions have been organised for all the enforcement agencies in February and November, 1995 and 1996.
- (vi) Raids are carried out by the wildlife authorities, in cooperation with other enforcement agencies if necessary whenever information of illegal trading in wildlife is received.
- (vii) India is a signatory to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) under which international trade in endangered species and their parts and derivatives is strictly regulated.
- (viii) Rewards are given to informers for gathering intelligence regarding illegal trade and smuggling of wildlife products.

(ix) A Committee set up by this Ministry to look into issues related to illegal trade in wildlife and wildlife products has recommended specific measures to deal with this problem and these are being followed up with the States for implementation.

(x) Regional and Sub-regional offices of Wildlife Preservation have been set-up mostly at the main export centres of the country to prevent illegal trade and smuggling of wildlife products.

Liberalisation Schemes

- 2564 SHRI BADAL CHOUDHURY :
SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA :
SHRI ANIL BASU :
DR. ASIM BALA :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the economic liberalisation programme is having some overbearing influence over the Project Tiger Programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to salvage the project while taking decisions under the liberalisation schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) and (c). It is not a fact that the economic liberalisation policy of the Government is having over-bearing influence over the Project Tiger Programme. Each proposal received for developmental activities in and around Tiger Reserves, is thoroughly scrutinised by the Ministry under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 and Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. Any violation of these Acts is dealt within accordance with the provisions of Law.

(b) Does not arise

National Scheduled Castes Finance and Development Corporation

- 2565 SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the funds allotted to National Scheduled Castes Finance and Development Corporation (NSCFDC) for the year 1995-96;

(b) the funds allotted to the State of Kerala for 1995-96 and the funds utilised out of the same; and

(c) the fund utilised in 1993-94 in the State of Kerala for the welfare of the Scheduled Castes?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) Rs. 65 crores was allotted to the NSFDC for the year 1995-96 by the Ministry.

(b) There is no State-wise allocation made by the Ministry of Welfare. However, NSFDC had sanctioned Rs. 321.48 lakhs and disbursed Rs. 385.88 lakhs to Kerala during 1995-96.

(c) Rs. 22.50 lakhs was disbursed for utilisation in the state of Kerala by NSFDC for the Welfare of Scheduled Castes.

Losses in Paradeep Phosphate Limited

2566 SHRI MURALIDHAR JENA : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state

(a) the reasons for the loss incurred by the Paradeep Phosphate Limited in Orissa.

(b) the amount of loss incurred in 1995-96; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to make it a profitable public undertaking?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) and (b). Paradeep Phosphates Limited has earned a net profit of Rs. 2.24 crore during the year 1995-96.

(c) Does not arise.

Cutting of Bamboos

2567. SHRI SANAT MEHTA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have received any complaint regarding large scale cutting of the bamboos by a Paper Mill in the Shoolpaneshwar Sanctuary area located on the river Narmada;

(b) if so, the basic policy of the Government regarding cutting of bamboos or other trees in the sanctuary areas;

(c) whether an enquiry has been conducted into the matter; and

(d) if not, the action being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Under Section 33 of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 the State Chief Wildlife Warden may take such measures within the sanctuary areas as he may consider necessary, in the interests of wildlife for the improvement of any habitat. This may include cutting of bamboos or other trees. The Chief Wildlife Warden of Gujarat has reported that selective removal of the dense bamboo growth in the Shoolpaneshwar Sanctuary is desirable in the overall interest of improving the habitat and biodiversity of the sanctuary.

(c) and (d). The State Cheif Wildlife Warden has informed that in response to a Court case the Gujarat High Court had appointed a Court Commission which has submitted its enquiry report to the Court. In two other cases the Gujarat High Court had directed the C.B.I. and also the Gujarat Forest Department to enquire into the matter. The Forest Department has submitted its report to the High Court. Further, in a Special Leave Petition the Supreme Court has ordered the Division Bench of the Gujarat High Court to examine the grievances of the petitioners, i.e. the State of Gujarat and Central Pulp Mill. The matter is subjudice before the Gujarat High Court.

[Translation]

P.P.C.L. Fertilizer Factory

2568 SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR SINGH : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state

(a) whether the fertilizers produced from Pyrites Phosphates and Chemicals Limited, fertilizers factory in Bihar are not provided to the local farmers;

(b) whether the fertilizers produced from the said factory are sold to other States only;

(c) if so, the details in this regard; and

(d) whether the Government shall make available the fertilizers of the said factory to the local farmers through the retail shops at reasonable rates?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) to (c). The unit of Pyrites, Phosphates and Chemicals Ltd. (PPCL) located at Amjhore in Bihar is engaged in the production of Single Super Phosphate (SSP) fertiliser. During 1993-94 to 1995-96, 54—66% of the total sales were in Bihar itself. Supplies to neighbouring States have also been undertaken but after meeting the requirements of Bihar.

(d) SSP is a decontrolled fertiliser. PPCL is equipped to make it available to farmers of Bihar through their distribution network at the price notified by the Government of Bihar.

[English]

Taj Mahal

2569. SHRI PRAMOTHES MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state

(a) whether industries in Agra and Shikohabad are still emitting pollution to damage the Taj Mahal and violating norms and rules set by the Government; and

(b) if so, the steps taken against defaulting industries?